



News, Events and Information

Incentivizing Green Building

As part of the Get Green Columbus initiative, Mayor Michael B. Coleman opened two new incentive programs for applicants: The Green Columbus Fund and the Green Switch Loan Fund. For businesses and non-profits, these funds will help both the environment and their bottom line.

- **Green Columbus Fund:**
Provides grants to acquire contaminated “brownfield” sites, complete environmental assessments or reimburse for the cost to certify a building with the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) for LEED-NC status, the nationally accepted benchmark for evaluating sustainable buildings.
- **Green Switch Load Fund:**
Low interest loans to cover the cost of energy efficiency construction and renovation building improvements including insulation, windows, lighting, heating and cooling systems, and even energy efficient equipment in industrial and commercial facilities.

Both funds will be offered on a first come- first served basis for eligible applicants. Further details including funding limits are available online at www.GetGreenColumbus.org or by calling the City of Columbus Department of Development at 614-645-7795.

Graduate Student Case Competition

Get Green Columbus, Green Columbus and event sponsor, Donatos, are seeking teams to participate in an upcoming Get Green Business Case Competition. The fifth annual competition will be held on Wednesday, November 17th. Two teams made up of four MBA students each will be permitted to participate per school. Each team will have five days to develop a solution to a problem/opportunity presented in the case study. A panel of judges will hear presentations and determine winners. The winning team will receive \$3,000. Second prize will enjoy \$1,500 and third prize, awarded to the team with the most innovative approach, will receive \$500. Questions can be directed to Erin Chacey at erin@greencbus.org.

No Impact Week at OSU

Throughout the year, The Ohio State University leads students to participate in public service projects benefiting the City of Columbus and greater community. For the 2010-2011 school year, incoming students will be asked to make “no impact” for a different type of community benefit. Colin Beavan,

author of *No Impact Man*, will share the story of his year-long journey living with no net impact on the environment. Students and the greater community are being asked to follow in Beavan's footsteps by reflecting on their own environmental impact and becoming more eco-friendly during the week of October 10-17. This "public service" project will reduce our carbon footprint, improve air quality and create a more informed community. Details and registration are available [online](#). A separate [website](#) offers a schedule of related events for students and the community to enjoy together, including a presentation by Colin Beavan on October 4th and 5th (ticketed event).

Accolades

- The City of Columbus has once again been selected as one of the *Government Fleet* magazine Environmental Leadership Award winners for 2010.
- The [Commons at Buckingham](#) has been certified as LEED Platinum.
- Columbus resident Jan Brownlee, met with Mayor Michael B. Coleman and received a rain barrel as a result of her participation on the Columbus GreenSpot Facebook page. Stay tuned for more opportunities to win by becoming a fan at www.Facebook.com/ColumbusGreenSpot.

Green Events & Activities

Get involved with sustainability in the City of Columbus and Central Ohio by visiting the MORPC Green Community Calendar [online](#).

- **[2 By 2012 Open House](#)**: September 30, 5:00PM at 4041 North High Street, Suite 201. Public launch of the 2 By 2012 program which is a bike-to-work program available to all central Ohio businesses and organizations. The goal of 2 BY 2012 is to increase Columbus' bicycling to work ratio from .07% to 2.0% by 2012.
- **[Ohio Solar Tour](#)**: October 2-3, at various locations throughout the state. Green Energy Ohio is the Ohio Chapter of the American Solar Energy Society (ASES), and GEO's 8th Annual Ohio Solar Tour is part of the National Solar Tour managed by ASES. This FREE statewide event on October 2 & 3 provides the unique opportunity for people to visit hundreds of Open House Sites and talk with owners living and working with clean energy technologies. Visit www.greenenergyohio.org for tour information or contact [Sarah](#); (614) 985-6131.
- **[Summit on Sustainability & the Environment](#)**: October 5th at COSI (333 W. Broad). Auden Schendler, author of *Getting Green Done* and corporate sustainability expert, will deliver a keynote presentation. Additionally, MORPC's will present the first annual Sustainability Awards, and Mayor Coleman will welcome and honor the newest Central Ohio Green Pact members. Other activities to include an evening reception on October 4th, interactive workshops and an exhibit hall. Contact [Brandi](#) with questions or visit www.GreenRegion.org.

Questions, comments, concerns? Interact with us online by becoming a Fan of Columbus GreenSpot on [Facebook](#)!



Support **Get Green Columbus** by becoming a **GreenSpot** member today!

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www.columbusgreenspot.org
www.facebook.com/ColumbusGreenSpot
www.getgreencolumbus.org

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